

⁴Since February 1788, James Madison had been promising that he would advocate the addition of a bill of rights to the Constitution. The absence of specific guarantees of individual rights had been the primary objection to the Constitution for many Antifederalists. On May 4, 1789, Madison announced that once the more urgent matters before Congress were resolved, he would introduce a list of amendments. He did so on June 8, rather than the fourth Monday in May. By the end of the first session in September 1789, two-thirds of both houses supported twelve amendments. Ralph Ketcham, *James Madison: A Biography* (New York: Macmillan Company, 1971), 289-291. For the text of Madison's resolution, including the amendments, see De Pauw et al., *Documentary History of the First Federal Congress*, 4:9-12.

⁵Theodorick Bland (1742-1790) was a physician trained in Edinburgh, an officer during the Revolution, and a member of the Continental Congress (1780-1783). In addition, Bland served as an Antifederalist delegate to the Virginia ratification convention and as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives (1789-1790). Bland presented the Virginia application to Congress on May 5, 1789. *BDC*, s.v. "Bland, Theodorick." For the text of the Virginia proposal, see De Pauw et al., *Documentary History of the First Federal Congress*, 4:15-19.

Elias Boudinot (1740-1821), a New Jersey attorney, served in the Continental Congress (1778, 1781-1783) and as president of the Congress (1782-1783). He was also a member of the U.S. House of Representatives (1789-1795) and later director of the U.S. mint (1795-1805). *BDC*, s.v. "Boudinot, Elias."

⁶For information on the New York gubernatorial election, see Hugh Williamson to JI, March 2, 1789, n. 3, in this volume.

To Hannah Iredell

Newbern Sunday Evening May 24.

My dear Hannah,

After waiting most impatiently for the Post, which ought to have arrived yesterday evening and did not till this, I have just received your kind letter, for which I am much obliged to you—I am very sorry to hear Mrs. Pollok is so ill, & greatly distress that Mr. Hooper continues so much dejected. Give my love most tenderly to my dear Children, & remember me very affectionately to all the rest of the Family, & Mr. Johnston's. And please to give my best respects to D. Williamson—I hope earnestly to meet you at Skewawky. I am much better than when I left home. Adieu! my dear Hannah, & be assured I am ever

Most affectionately yours

Ja. Iredell

RC, Johnson Collection, NCSA. Addressed "Mrs. Iredell Edenton." Endorsed "Newbern 24th. May 1789. Ja. Iredell."